



September 17, 2004

Providence man is sentenced to nine years in prison for trafficking in crack cocaine

A federal judge today sentenced **Jose Rivera**, of Providence, to 108 months in federal prison for trafficking in crack cocaine. Providence Police detectives arrested Rivera in August 2003, when they seized crack cocaine from Rivera's car and apartment.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which Chief U.S. District Court Judge Ernest C. Torres imposed today in U.S. District Court Providence. In June, Rivera 29, of 33 Toronto Avenue, pleaded guilty to possessing with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine.

At the hearing in June at which Rivera pleaded guilty, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen G. Dambruch said that the government had proof that, on August 29, 2003, Providence Police detectives seized about 758 grams of crack cocaine from a car and an apartment linked to Rivera.

Detectives obtained search warrants that day for two residences – at 33 Toronto Avenue and at 150 Indiana Avenue. Detectives later observed Rivera drive from the Indiana Avenue address to 33 Toronto Avenue and then leave that location. Detectives stopped Rivera's car, confiscated a black bag containing suspected crack cocaine, and arrested Rivera. At 33 Toronto Avenue, detectives seized a brown wooden box containing suspected crack cocaine and drug-trafficking materials. They

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seized a drug ledger at 150 Indiana Avenue. Tests later showed that the total weight of the seized crack cocaine was 758.24 grams.

After his arrest, Rivera admitted to detectives that the crack cocaine seized from the car and at 33 Toronto Avenue was his. He has been detained since his arrest.

The **Providence Police Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau** investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Dambruch prosecuted it.

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